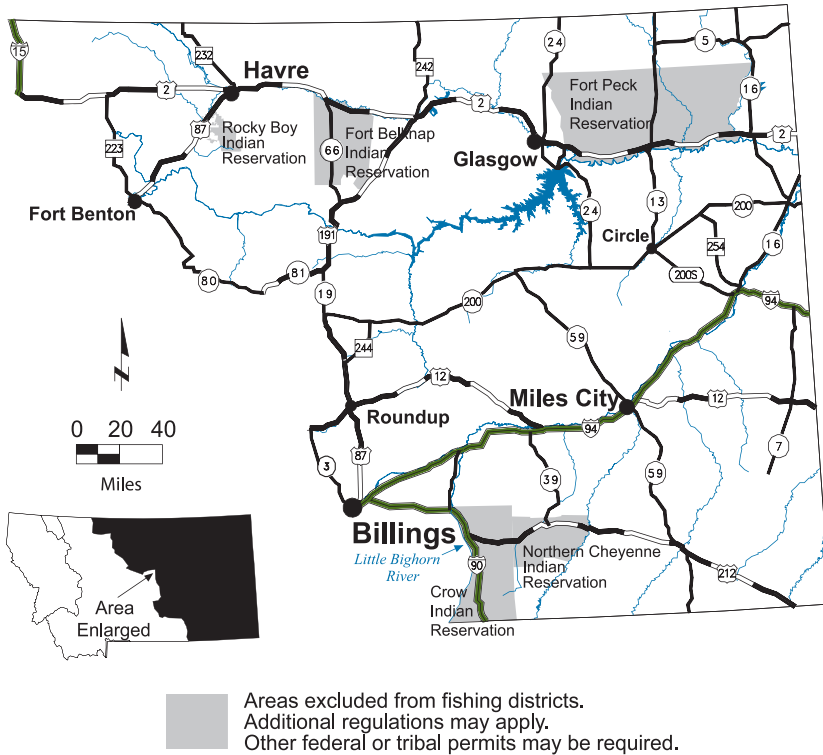


Eastern Fishing District



The Eastern Fishing District includes all waters lying east of the Central Fishing District. For the boundary description, see Central Fishing District, page 45.

Note: Roadways that are used as boundaries between the Central and Eastern Fishing Districts are interpreted to be in the Central Fishing District.

For additional information regarding the boundaries of this district, please call the following regional headquarters Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.:

Billings	406-247-2940
Glasgow	406-228-3700
Great Falls	406-454-5840
Havre Area Resource Office	406-265-6177
Lewistown Area Office	406-538-4658
Miles City	406-234-0900
TDD (Telephone device for the deaf)	406-444-1200

Eastern District Standard Regulations

Closed Waters

Waters operated as fish hatcheries and rearing ponds by FWP and the US Fish and Wildlife Service shall be closed to fishing at all times. Waters in which FWP operates fish traps and other structures are closed to fishing as posted. Certain water-supply lakes, streams and hazardous areas are also closed as posted.

Dam Closures and Restrictions

In the interest of public health and safety, certain areas above and below most dams are closed to the public. These restrictions include areas where no public access is allowed below the ordinary high-water mark. The restricted areas are identified and delineated by signs and/or boat restraining systems.

The following dams are closed to all boating, sailing, floating, swimming, fishing or other recreational activity as marked by boat restraining systems or as posted to restrict access. Other dams not listed here may also be posted for restricted access. For more information call the FWP Fishing Access Coordinator at 406-444-7885, or contact the Bureau of Reclamation at 406-247-7296, Army Corp of Engineers, or PPL Montana at 406-533-3415.

- Anita Dam (Yellowstone County)
- Fort Peck Dam (Valley County)
- Fresno Dam (Hill County)

Beaver Ponds

Beaver ponds on streams are governed by the same regulations that govern the streams.

Fort Peck Reservation - Tribal Boundary Water Regulations

Non-tribal members licensed through the State of Montana and/or Fort Peck Tribes that are fishing in waters that form the exterior boundaries of the Reservation -- Big Muddy Creek, Missouri River and/or Milk River -- are permitted to harvest the following limits:

Burbot (Ling)	5 daily and in possession
Channel Catfish	20 daily and in possession
Northern Pike	10 daily and in possession
Paddlefish	1 daily and in possession
Sauger/Walleye	5 daily and 10 in possession
Pallid Sturgeon	0 (all waters are closed to fishing for pallid sturgeon)
Shovelnose Sturgeon	5 daily and in possession

These harvest limits cannot be exceeded, even if the angler possesses both tribal and state licenses, and fishes on and/or off the reservation on the same day.

Non-tribal members licensed through the State of Montana and/or the Fort Peck Tribes, that are fishing in exterior boundary waters -- Big Muddy Creek, Missouri River and/or Milk River -- are limited to a maximum of 6 lines with 6 hooks per line. Unattended lines are required to be identified with the angler's name and/or license number. Setlines shall not be attached to jugs or floating devices.

Irrigation Canals and Ditches

Man-made irrigation canals and ditches are open year round unless stated otherwise in exceptions to standard regulations. The same daily and possession limits apply to them as for rivers/streams.

Reservoirs

Under normal operations, reservoir pool elevation, surface acreage and the mouths of the inlet stream(s) are expected to vary throughout the year. An imaginary line connecting the reservoir shoreline across the mouth of the stream marks the boundary between

reservoir and stream/river, and the boundary will move as reservoir levels change. Streams are defined by a sloped streambed that results in a defined current flow between two discernible stream banks. Stream regulations apply upstream from the mouth on the reservoir and often are managed under seasons, limits and special regulations that differ from the reservoir regulations.

Transporting Live Fish

An import permit is required to bring live fish of any kind into Montana. It is unlawful to possess or transport any live fish away from the body of water in which the fish were taken without authorization from FWP with the following exceptions:

- 1) transportation of fish for authorized commercial purposes (eg. Baitfish Seining Permit, Commercial Fish Ponds, Commercial Fishing, etc.);
- 2) use as live bait subject to restrictions imposed by the FWP Commission for the taking, transport and use of live baitfish (see “**Bait Regulations**” below); or
- 3) within the boundaries of the Eastern Fishing District. It is unlawful to possess or transport live fish, other than authorized baitfish, on roadways that form the boundary between the Eastern and Central fishing districts.

Boat and Motor Restrictions

A complete, updated, copy of the Montana Boating Laws may be obtained by contacting any FWP office or any FWP license agent. All passengers under the age of 12 must wear a PFD at all times when the boat is in motion if the boat is less than 26 feet long. A wearable, U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD must be available for each occupant of any boat.

Warm Water Game Fish Stamp

The 1999 Montana Legislature passed a bill to require the purchase of a warm water game fish stamp. The warm water game fish stamp is required to fish on the following waters in the Eastern Fishing District:

- Anita Reservoir, Yellowstone Co.
- Arapooish Pond, Big Horn Co.
- Bailey Reservoir, Hill Co.
- Baker Lake, Fallon Co.
- Bearpaw Lake, Hill Co.
- Beaver Creek, Wibaux Co.
- Beaver Creek Reservoir, Hill Co.
- Box Elder Creek Reservoir, Sheridan Co.
- Castle Rock Lake, Rosebud Co.
- Catfish Reservoir, Fergus Co.
- Conter's Bass Pond, Yellowstone Co.
- Cow Creek Reservoir, Blaine Co.
- Drag Reservoir, Petroleum Co.
- Dry Fork Reservoir, Blaine Co.
- Engdahl Cottonwood Res, Garfield Co.
- Ester Lake, Phillips Co.
- Fort Peck Reservoir
- Fort Peck Dredge Cut Pond, Valley Co.
- Fresno Reservoir, Hill Co.
- Gartside Lake, Richland Co.
- Haughian (Dan Haughian) Reservoir, Custer Co.
- Hollands Reservoir, Fergus Co.
- Homestead Reservoir, Prairie Co.
- Hopalong Reservoir, Fergus Co.
- Iliad Reservoir, Chouteau Co.
- Johnson Dam, Dawson Co.
- Lake Elmo, Yellowstone Co.
- Little Warm Reservoir, Phillips Co.
- Maier Reservoir, Fallon Co.
- Nelson Res. (Benes Res.), Fergus Co.
- Nelson Reservoir, Phillips Co.
- Payola Reservoir, Petroleum Co.
- Petrolia Reservoir, Petroleum Co.
- Schlesinger Reservoir #1, Rosebud Co.
- Schoonover Reservoir #1, Chouteau Co.
- Silvan Pond, Chouteau Co.
- Silvertip Reservoir, Prairie Co.
- South Fork Dry Blood Reservoir, Petroleum Co.
- South Sandstone Reservoir, Fallon Co.
- Talcott Pond, Carter Co.
- Tongue River Reservoir, Big Horn Co.
- Trumbo Pond, Garfield Co.
- Upper Wolf Coulee Reservoir, Fergus Co.
- Wapiti Reservoir, Phillips Co.
- Warm Springs Creek, Fergus Co.
- Whisker Reservoir, Fergus Co.

Methods of Taking Fish

- A valid fishing license is required for all types of fishing.
- Spears and bows are counted as lines for purposes of determining line limits.
- When multiple lines are allowed on a body of water, the maximum number of lines allowed shall not exceed the greater of either the attended lines or the setlines. For example, if an angler is snagging for paddlefish on the Yellowstone River (where the limit is 2 attended lines or 6 setlines), he/she may only have 4 setlines in use if he/she is using two attended lines, for a total of 6 lines.
- All unattended fishing devices (crayfish traps, minnow traps, fish traps, setlines, etc.) must have the angler's name and phone number or name and ALS# attached.

Hook and Line Limits

Open Water

Rivers and Streams

- 6 lines with 6 hooks per line. The line/s must be attended and in the angler's immediate control unless they are used as setlines. See regulations for Setlines below.

Lakes and Reservoirs

- 2 lines with 2 hooks per line. All lines must be attended and in the angler's immediate control unless they are used as setlines. See regulations for Setlines below.

Ice Fishing

Lakes, Reservoirs, Rivers and Streams

- 6 lines with 2 hooks per line through the ice. When a line is used through the ice, the angler need not be in immediate control but must be in the vicinity and in visual contact with the line unless they are used as setlines. See regulations for Setlines below.

Size of Hole

- There is no size limit for a hole used for ice fishing or with a spear.

Shelters

- Shelter definition/use: Any hut or enclosure constructed of any material, except ice or snow, for the purpose of ice fishing.
- It is illegal to use any ice fishing shelter not conforming to the following rules.
 - Shelter identification: Identification must be painted on or otherwise affixed to all unattended shelters in legible, 2-inch letters plainly visible at a distance of 100 feet. Identification must include the owner's name and address, name and phone number, or 9/10-digit ALS number. Attended shelters at Bearpaw Lake and Beaver Creek Reservoir must also be identified.
 - Inspection: Each closed shelter shall have a door that an officer may readily open from the outside for inspection when it is occupied.
 - Waste and rubbish disposal: Owners and occupants of shelters are required to keep their shelters (and the area immediately around them) free from rubbish and trash. Anglers must remove waste materials before they leave for the day.
 - Shelter removal after the season: The owner of an ice fishing shelter shall remove it from the ice before it becomes irretrievable at the end of the season, or within five days from receipt of notification from FWP to remove the shelter.

Setlines

- Number of lines is the same as for Hook and Line Limits. Setlines may be used in all waters unless prohibited in the District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.
- Setlines (unattended lines) must be checked by the owner at least once every 24 hrs.
- The angler's name and phone number or name and 9/10-digit ALS# must be attached to each setline.
- Setlines shall not be attached to jugs or other floating devices.

Bow and Arrow

All waters open to angling are open to taking paddlefish and nongame fish by bow and arrow. Crossbows are illegal.

Nets and Traps

Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish. See Bait Regulations for use of nets to harvest bait fish.

Hoop Nets

- The use of hoop nets is permitted in certain areas of the Eastern Fishing District.
- The use of hoop nets is limited to licensed resident anglers.
- A permit is required. Permit applications and rules are available at FWP offices in Billings, Miles City and Glasgow.

Snagging

Snagging nongame fish is allowed on all open waters in the Eastern District except on the Missouri River downstream from Fort Benton to the North Dakota border, and on the Yellowstone River downstream from the mouth of the Bighorn River, where only paddlefish may be snagged by anglers with a valid paddlefish tag. All waters open to angling are open to snagging paddlefish during the open paddlefish season by anglers with a valid tag. Snagging chinook salmon is allowed on Fort Peck Reservoir only from October 1 through November 30.

Spearing

In all waters open to fishing, nongame fish, northern pike, burbot (ling), walleye and whitefish may be taken with rubber or spring-propelled spears by persons swimming or submerged. Spears or gigs may be used through the ice for nongame fish, northern pike, walleye, sauger and burbot (ling).

Bait Regulations

- Game fish, including yellow perch, may not be used as bait except as authorized below under Dead Bait.
- Possession of live bait fish is prohibited on waters closed to using live bait.
- It is illegal to release live bait of any kind into Montana waters; do not empty any live bait containers at your fishing site.
- Where live fish may be used as bait (see list below under Live Bait), legal nongame fish may be taken for use as bait in the following manner:
 - with hook and line; or
 - with seines no larger than 12 feet by 4 feet; or
 - with minnow traps (the dimensions shall not exceed 24 inches x 12 inches x 12 inches); or
 - with cast nets (maximum 6-foot radius) and dip nets (no larger than 3 feet x 3 feet).
- Legal nongame fish, except sculpins (genus *Cottus*) which must be killed prior to transport, may only be transported live:
 - to or from waters where live fish may be used as bait in the Central Fishing District, or
 - anywhere within the boundaries of the Eastern Fishing District.

[Note: Sculpins (genus Cottus) may not be used for bait in the Western District.]
- Landowner permission is required to capture live bait from privately owned ponds.
- See Commercial Fishing License requirements for information on commercail harvest permits.
- All unattended fishing devices (crayfish traps, minnow traps, fish traps, setlines, etc.) must have the angler's name and phone number or name and ALS# attached.

Dead Bait

- Nongame fish that are freshly killed or have been preserved by freezing, salting or pickling may be used as bait on all waters not restricted to artificial lures only. Heads and entrails of nongame fish may also be used as bait.
- Whole game fish may not be used as bait.
- Parts/pieces of bass, burbot (ling), channel catfish, crappie, northern pike, paddlefish, sauger, shovelnose sturgeon, tiger muskellunge, walleye, or yellow perch may be used as bait if edible portions are not wasted.
- The eggs of char, cisco, grayling, salmon or trout may be used as bait. Parts/pieces of salmonids may not be used as bait.

Live Bait

- Live bait fish may not be imported into Montana.
- Live animals such as meal worms, red worms, night crawlers, leeches, maggots, crayfish, reptiles, amphibians and insects may be used as bait on all waters not restricted to artificial lures. Leeches may only be imported into Montana from FWP-approved leech dealers. Anglers who import leeches must have in their possession a bill-of-sale from the approved out-of-state leech dealer when fishing with leeches in Montana. A list of approved out-of-state leech dealers may be obtained from FWP by calling 406-452-6181.
- Nongame fish that may be used as live bait in the Eastern District include all nongame species except black bullheads, bluegill, carp, goldfish, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, rainbow smelt, sculpins, stonecats, yellow bullheads, shortnose gar, sturgeon chub, sicklefin chub, Northern redbelly dace, blue sucker and pearl dace.
- Live nongame fish may be used as bait only in the following waters:

Rivers and Streams

All streams and rivers in the Eastern Fishing District except:

- Milk River and its tributaries upstream from Fresno Dam.
- Beaver Creek upstream from Beaver Creek Reservoir.

Lakes, Reservoirs, Ponds and Impoundments (listed by County):

- Big Horn Co. - Tongue River Reservoir
- Blaine Co. - Cow Creek Reservoir, Dry Fork Reservoir, and all BLM reservoirs
- Carter Co. - Doug Gardner #2 Reservoir, Talcott Pond
- Custer Co. - Spotted Eagle Pond, Haughan Pond
- Daniels Co. - Whitetail Reservoir
- Dawson Co. - Johnson Reservoir, Lindsay Reservoir
- Fallon Co. - Baker Lake, South Sandstone Reservoir
- Fort Peck Reservoir
- Garfield Co. - Whiteside Reservoir
- Hill Co. - Beaver Creek Reservoir, Bailey Reservoir
- McCone Co. - Flat Lake, Hedstrom Reservoir
- Milk River impoundments downstream of Fresno Dam
- Petroleum Co. - Petrolia Reservoir
- Phillips Co. - Cole Ponds, Ester Reservoir, Frenchman Reservoir, Little Warm Reservoir, McChesney Reservoir, Nelson Reservoir, and all BLM reservoirs
- Richland Co. - Buxbaum West Reservoir, Gartside Reservoir, Kuester Reservoir
- Roosevelt Co. - Bainville Railroad Ponds
- Rosebud Co. - Castle Rock Lake
- Sheridan Co. - Box Elder Reservoir, Engstrom Reservoir, Medicine Lake Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Raymond Reservoir
- Valley Co. - Fort Peck Dredge Cut Trout Pond, Grub Reservoir, Gut Shot Reservoir, Shoot Reservoir, Triple Crossing Reservoir, Valley Reservoir, VR2 Reservoir, Wards Res., and all BLM reservoirs in the Willow Creek Drainage
- Wibaux Co. - *Wibaux Pond*
- Yellowstone Co. - Anita Reservoir

General Regulations

Possession limit means the number of fish that you may possess at any time in any form: fresh, stored in freezers or lockers, salted, smoked, dried, canned or otherwise preserved. It is illegal to preserve fish (salted, smoked, dried, canned, or otherwise preserved) before taking them to your permanent residence (the physical abode or structure you maintain as your principal, legal residence) unless those fish can be counted. Mobile recreational vehicles, travel trailers, tents or storage/freezer lockers do not qualify as permanent residences. No person may sell or take for the purpose of sale any fish except as authorized in commercial fishing regulations.

Daily limit means the number of fish you may legally take during a calendar day. It is unlawful to exceed the standard daily limit unless the regulations for the water body where you are fishing specify a different limit. "Legally taken" means fish caught and not immediately released alive. Where catch and release is allowed, fish immediately released alive are considered not taken. A fish when landed and not immediately released becomes part of the daily limit of the person originally hooking the fish, even if the fish is donated to another person. If you receive fish from another angler, those fish also become part of your daily limit. You may possess the daily limit allowed only for the body of water on which you are fishing.

Handling and Transporting Legally Taken Fish

While a person is fishing, or while on the water or on the ice:

- All fish in possession must be visibly identifiable to species.
- All fish in possession must be whole with head, skin, fins and tail attached. Gills and entrails may be removed.

Fish may be dressed and filleted for transport to your permanent residence, unless size limits apply, under the following conditions:

- All fish can be counted and identified. Two fillets will be counted as one fish. If the catch is frozen prior to transport, each fish or fillet must be packaged so it can be counted.
- Salmonids (trout, salmon, grayling, char and whitefish): the entire skin must be attached to the fillet for identification.

General Fishing Seasons and Hours

Fishing Hours

- Fishing is allowed at all hours during open fishing seasons unless otherwise specified in District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.

Fishing Season: Lakes/Reservoirs and Rivers/Streams

- All waters open entire year unless otherwise specified in District Exceptions to Standard Regulations.

Special Paddlefish Regulations

All paddlefish anglers, regardless of age, must purchase the proper prerequisite conservation license, fishing license and paddlefish tag (see License Requirements). All licenses must be in the angler's immediate possession while fishing.

Daily and Possession Limits

1 paddlefish per season per angler. Anglers may select only one of the following areas, and may only fish in the area selected:

- Upper Missouri River, upstream from Fort Peck Dam to Fort Benton - white tag
- Yellowstone River or Lower Missouri River downstream from Fort Peck Dam -yellow tag
- Fort Peck Dredge Cuts (west of Park Grove Bridge and Nelson Dredge) on the lower Missouri River - blue tag

General Paddlefish Regulations for ALL Areas

- Each angler must cast for, hook and reel in his or her own paddlefish. It is unlawful for another person to do so. It is illegal to loan tags or use another angler's tag.
- Hook size is limited to 8/0 and smaller for all paddlefish snagging.
- Gaffs, no longer than 4.5 feet in length, may be used to land a paddlefish that will be tagged. Gaffs may not be used to land a paddlefish that will be released.
- Any tag locked shut prior to attachment to a paddlefish shall be void and is not replaceable. Any altered or modified tag shall be void. Voided tags are not replaceable.
- It is unlawful to possess an untagged paddlefish or part of one. ***Paddlefish must be tagged immediately upon harvest.*** If anglers cut up a paddlefish, they must keep the part of the back and dorsal fin (back fin) where the tag is attached and sealed to the fish.
- Tags must remain with processed fish until consumption.
- When a paddlefish is captured and tagged, the fish must be removed from the river by the end of the day (9:00 PM, MST).

Missouri River upstream from Fort Peck Dam

- The paddlefish fishery is managed under an annual harvest target not to exceed 500 fish. FWP may close the harvest season within 24 hours notice in any year if it appears that the harvest target may be exceeded. Catch-and-release would continue for the duration of the season. Call the Glasgow FWP office at 406-228-3700 for current information on harvest status.

Missouri River downstream from Fort Peck Dam and the Yellowstone River

- The paddlefish fishery is managed under a harvest target in conjunction with North Dakota. Montana has set regulations so that annual harvest will not exceed 1000 fish. FWP may close the season within 24 hours notice in any year if it appears that the harvest target may be exceeded, and immediately at the Intake FAS and downstream to Cottonwood Creek, when ***it is estimated that the target has been reached.*** Call the Miles City FWP office at 406-234-0900 for current information on harvest status.
- The Montana nonprofit corporation designated to accept paddlefish egg donations for the caviar market is authorized to transport lawfully taken and tagged paddlefish donated by the angler in accordance with guidelines developed and implemented through the annual MOU. Paddlefish taken on the Yellowstone River between the Burlington Northern Railroad Bridge at Glendive and the North Dakota state line and donated by the angler at the Intake FAS or at the Sidney Bridge FAS are eligible for transport by designated individuals.

To Tag a Paddlefish

- Cut a small hole in the base of the dorsal fin (see illustration).
- Insert the metal loop portion of the plastic self-locking tag through this hole and seal tag.
- The metal loop must penetrate the fish so as to make the plastic self-locking tag non-removable when tag is sealed.
- The plastic self-locking tag must be completely sealed so it cannot be reopened.



IMPORTANT: Do not seal your plastic self-locking tag prior to attachment to fish. They cannot be reopened. Any fish not tagged in accordance with these instructions shall be considered to be untagged.

Eastern District Standard and Daily Possession Limits

- Each angler may take all of the limits listed in the chart, unless otherwise noted in the Eastern District Exceptions. For species not listed, there are no limits on the number of fish that may be taken or possessed.
- Anglers who move from one fishing water to another may possess the limit of fish allowed only for the water on which they are currently fishing.

Species	Daily and Possession Limits
TROUT	
Brook trout	10 daily and in possession.
Combined Trout includes brown trout, rainbow trout, golden trout and grayling	Lakes/Reservoirs: 5 daily and 10 in possession, includes cutthroat trout. Rivers/Streams: 5 daily and in possession.
Cutthroat trout	Lakes/Reservoirs: included in the "Combined Trout" daily and possession limit. Rivers/Streams: all cutthroat trout must be released immediately.
Lake trout	3 daily and in possession.
Bass	5 daily and in possession.
Burbot (ling)	5 daily and in possession.
Catfish	20 daily and in possession.
Crappie	15 daily and 30 in possession.
Northern pike	10 daily and in possession.
Paddlefish	1 daily and in possession. Tag required.
Pallid sturgeon	0 - this is an endangered species and all fish must be released immediately. All waters are closed to fishing for pallid sturgeon.
Salmon (Kokanee & Chinook)	5 daily and 10 in possession.
Sauger/Walleye	5 daily and 10 in possession.
Shovelnose sturgeon	5 daily and in possession, none over 40 inches.
Tiger muskellunge	1 daily and in possession, must be over 40 inches.
Whitefish	20 daily and 40 in possession.

If you don't find the water you are looking for listed in the district exceptions, use the standard regulations for the district you are fishing in.

Eastern District Exceptions To Standard Regulations

Check the following list of waters for the body of water you intend to fish in the Eastern District. If the body of water is not found in the listing of Exceptions, all of the Eastern District standard seasons, daily/possession limits, and statewide regulations apply. Standard regulations apply for species not listed in the Exceptions.

Waterbody/Section	Exceptions to Standard Regulations
BEARPAW LAKE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.
BEAVER CREEK RESERVOIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combined Trout: 3 daily and in possession.
BIGHORN RIVER (east of Billings)	<p>Entire river</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.
FORT PECK DREDGE CUTS (west of Park Grove Bridge and Nelson Dredge)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bow and Arrow: open July 1 through August 31 for paddlefish. 1 paddlefish per angler. An unused blue paddlefish tag is required to fish for paddlefish. Combined Trout: 2 rainbow trout daily and in possession. Hook and Line/Setlines: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line on open water and 6 lines with 6 hooks per line through the ice. Snagging: no snagging allowed.
FORT PECK KIDS POND (near Downstream Campground)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.
FORT PECK RESERVOIR	<p>Fort Peck Dam to Beauchamp Creek and CMR Trail 837</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger. Spearing: in addition to the standard regulations, chinook salmon and lake trout may be taken by spear or gig through the ice December 1 through March 31. Snagging: allowed only for chinook salmon from October 1 through November 30.
HOLLECKER LAKE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bass: 1 daily and in possession, 15 inches minimum.
HOME RUN POND (Glasgow)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to fishing for anglers 14 years of age and younger only. One rod per child.
MARIAS RIVER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open entire year downstream from the Hwy 223 Bridge. Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches. Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.
MEDICINE LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (Sheridan County)	<p>All lakes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 6 hooks per line during the applicable open season. <p>Medicine Lake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open November 15 through September 15. <p>Gaffney Lake and Lake 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open August 15 through March 31. <p>Lake 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open November 15 through March 31.

MISSOURI RIVER



Entire river

- Snagging: it is illegal to snag for fish other than paddlefish on the Missouri River downstream from Fort Benton; **any fish other than paddlefish must be immediately released alive**. Snagging nongame fish is allowed on the Missouri River upstream from Fort Benton only.

Upstream from Fort Peck Dam to Fort Benton

- Paddlefish snagging: open to harvesting paddlefish from May 1 to June 15 (unless closed earlier by FWP) from 6 AM to 9 PM, MST, daily. An unused white paddlefish tag is required to harvest a paddlefish. All paddlefish captured must either be tagged and kept, or released immediately. See Eastern District Standard Regulations for additional important paddlefish information.
- Catch-and-release snagging for paddlefish is open from May 1 to June 15. Proof of purchase of a white paddlefish tag on your fishing license is required for catch-and-release fishing. All paddlefish must be released immediately and may not be gaffed or lifted out of the water. Captured fish must remain at least partially submerged in water at all times.
- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.

Downstream from Fort Peck Dam

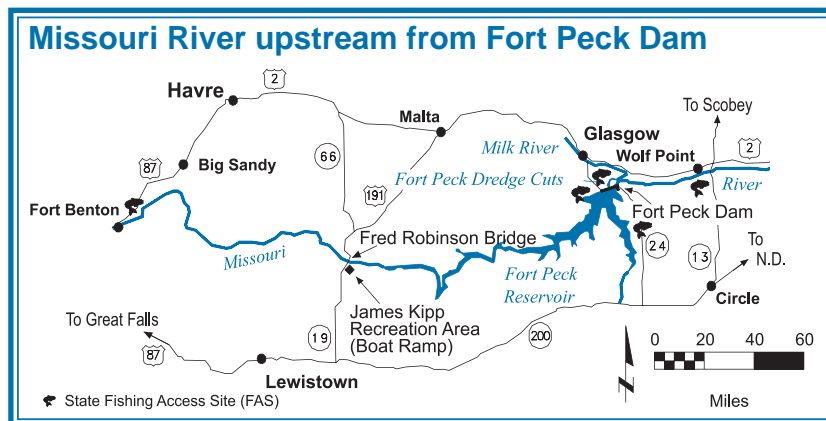
- Paddlefish snagging: open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays May 15 through June 30 from 6 AM to 9 PM, MST, unless closed to harvest earlier by FWP. **Paddlefish snagging is closed on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays.** An unused yellow paddlefish tag is required to fish for paddlefish. The tag must be properly placed on the first paddlefish caught and landed. See Eastern District Standard Regulations for additional important paddlefish information.
- Catch-and-release snagging for paddlefish is not permitted.

Fort Peck Dam to the mouth of the Milk River

- Combined Trout: 2 rainbow trout daily and in possession.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line on open water and 6 lines with 6 hooks per line through the ice.

Downstream from Fort Peck Dam near Duck Island as posted

- Closed from March 1 through July 31 to fishing and wading as posted.



Waterbody/Section

Exceptions to Standard Regulations

ROSS RESERVOIR (Blaine County)

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

SPOTTED EAGLE POND (Miles City)

- 5 fish daily and in possession, any combination of species.

TONGUE RIVER

12-Mile Dam Fishing Access Site (T&Y Dam)

- Hook and Line/Setlines: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line all year.

TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR

- Crappie: 30 daily and 60 in possession.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 6 lines with 6 hooks per line through the ice.

WARM SPRINGS CREEK (Fergus County)

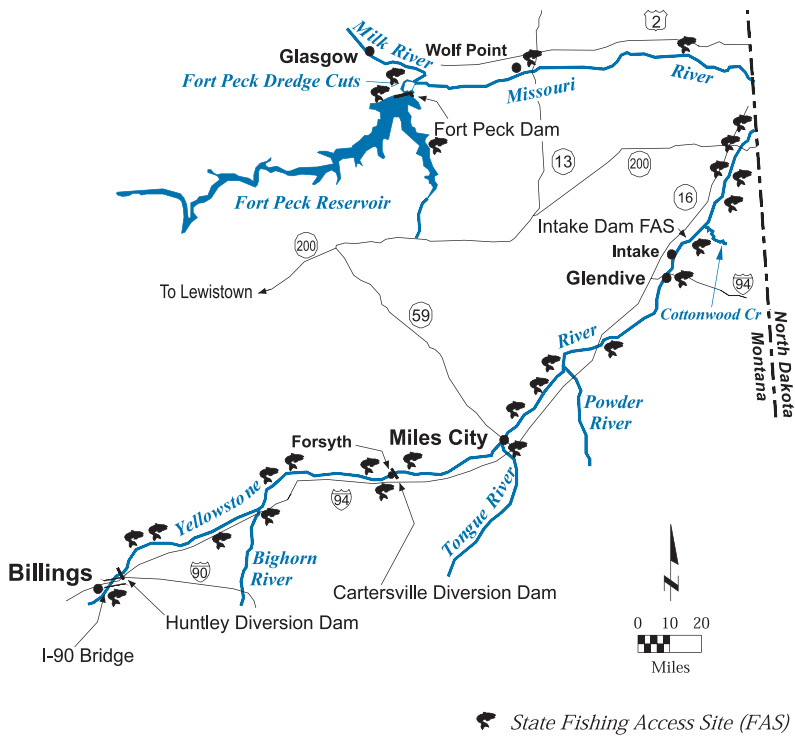
- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches.

WIND CREEK (Blaine County)

- Closed entire year from Clear Creek road crossing to Ross Reservoir Dam.

Eastern District

Yellowstone & Lower Missouri Rivers



YELLOWSTONE RIVER

I-90 Bridge at Billings to the mouth of the Bighorn River

- Combined Trout: 5 daily and in possession, only 1 over 18 inches, includes cutthroat trout.

I-90 Bridge at Billings to Huntley Diversion Dam

- Hook and Line: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line all year.

I-90 Bridge at Billings to Cartersville Diversion Dam at Forsyth

- Sauger/Walleye: 5 daily, only 1 may be a sauger. Possession limit is 10, only 2 may be sauger.

Downstream from the mouth of the Bighorn River, not including Intake Fishing Access Site

- Catch-and-release snagging for paddlefish is allowed **ONLY** at the Intake FAS (see Intake FAS below). Catch-and-release for paddlefish is not permitted on any other section of the Yellowstone River or on the Missouri River below Fort Peck Dam.
- Snagging: It is illegal to snag for fish, other than paddlefish, downstream from the mouth of the Bighorn River on the Yellowstone River, or downstream from Fort Peck Dam on the Missouri River. ***Any fish other than paddlefish must be immediately released alive.***
- Paddlefish Snagging: Open May 15 through June 30 from 6 AM to 9 PM, MST, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays only, unless closed to harvest earlier by FWP. ***Paddlefish snagging is closed on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays.*** An unused yellow paddlefish tag is required to fish for paddlefish. The tag must be properly placed on the first paddlefish caught and landed. See Eastern District Standard Regulations for additional important information.

Intake Fishing Access Site

- Paddlefish Snagging: open for harvesting paddlefish May 15 through June 30 from 6 AM to 9 PM, MST, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays or Saturdays unless closed earlier by FWP. An unused yellow paddlefish tag is required to harvest a paddlefish. The tag must be properly placed on the first paddlefish caught and landed. It is unlawful to release a paddlefish except on designated catch-and-release days during the open season for paddlefish.
- Catch-and-release snagging for paddlefish is allowed May 15 through June 30 from 6 AM to 9 PM, MST, on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays. Evidence of a current year yellow paddlefish tag must be in possession to fish for paddlefish. All paddlefish must be released immediately and may not be gaffed or lifted out of the water. Captured fish must remain at least partially submerged in water at all times. Following the harvest closure, catch-and-release snagging will be allowed for 10 consecutive days or through June 30, whichever comes first.
- Snagging: It is illegal to snag for fish other than paddlefish.
- Hook and Line/Setlines: 2 lines with 2 hooks per line all year.

Intake Diversion Dam to about 1/4 mile downstream as posted

- Snagging: It is illegal to snag for fish other than paddlefish.
- Closed May 15 through June 30 to fishing or snagging from boats/vessels.